

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117039
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
EB-08 AID-05 STR-07 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00 OES-07
HUD-02 HEW-06 AGRE-00 /113 R

DRAFTED BY IO/DHP:WFALKNER:MEV
APPROVED BY IO:CRFRANK
EUR/NE:WNEWLIN
IO/DHP:CENORRIS

-----046364 090601Z /23

R 082202Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 117039

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP, EAID

SUBJECT: DUTCH POSITION PAPER ON UNDP

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT TEXT OF A LETTER PROVIDED BELOW TO GERBEN RINGNALDA, OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FROM DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY CHARLES R. FRANK, JR. IN ADDITION, A COPY OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING PAPER REFERRED TO IN THE LETTER HAS BEEN AIRPOUCHED FOR DELIVERY TO RINGNALDA.

2. DEAR GERBEN,
-- THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SENDING ME A COPY OF YOUR PAPER ON UNDP FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT. I AM PLEASED TO SEE HOW MUCH CRITICAL ATTENTION UNDP AND THE ENTIRE QUESTION OF UN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS RECEIVING THESE DAYS FROM
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MAJOR DONORS.
-- IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT EIGHT YEARS AFTER SIR ROBERT JACKSON'S REPORT AND THE 1970 CONSENSUS WE STILL ARE WORKING TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF IMPROVED COHERENCE, OVERALL EFFICIENCY AND DYNAMISM IN MULTILATERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AS CORRECTLY MENTIONED IN YOUR PAPER. IF YOU HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE GENEVA GROUP

MEETING OF MAY 2-3 WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES, YOU WILL HAVE
HEARD ABOUT THE PAPER WE PRESENTED ON THE QUESTION OF

ASSESSED AND VOLUNTARY FUNDING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.
WE ALSO COVERED IN SOME DETAIL UNDP'S PRESENT ROLE IN THE
UN SYSTEM AND SUGGESTED MEANS OF IMPROVEMENT. IN GENERAL,
THE ANALYSIS AND THE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ARE QUITE
SIMILAR TO YOURS. IN PARTICULAR, WE NOW ARE PREPARED TO
EXAMINE CLOSELY VARIOUS IDEAS FOR MULTI-YEAR FUNDING TO
IMPROVE UNDP'S FINANCIAL PLANNING. THIS IS A SIGNIFICANT
CHANGE IN OUR ATTITUDE. I AM PLEASED TO SEE THAT WE ARE
IN ACCORD, ALONG WITH SEVERAL OTHER MAJOR DONORS, THAT
THE PRINCIPLE DESERVES SERIOUS EXAMINATION. I ALSO
FOUND MOST INTERESTING YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR A GENERAL
CONSOLIDATION OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH UNDP,
RATHER THAN THROUGH VARIOUS SPECIAL PURPOSE FUNDS, AND
FOR STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE
AS THE COORDINATOR OF ALL UN ASSISTANCE IN A SINGLE
COUNTRY. WHILE I AM SURE WE BOTH COULD SUGGEST SITUATIONS
WHERE EXCEPTIONS TO THESE RULES MIGHT BE DESIRABLE, AGAIN
IN PRINCIPLE, I AGREE THESE ARE WORTHWHILE GOALS.

-- AS WE HAVE HAD THE BENEFIT OF YOUR PAPER AND YOU
PERHAPS HAVE NOT SEEN OURS, I AM SENDING YOU A COPY VIA
OUR EMBASSY. I THINK YOU WILL FIND IT A USEFUL DOCUMENT.

-- C. R. FRANK VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, POLICIES, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE117039
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WFALKNER:MEV
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780195-0822
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780581/aaaacrqb.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bad1b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2759187
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DUTCH POSITION PAPER ON UNDP
TAGS: EAID, NL, UNDP
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bad1b4a2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014